

AFRO-ASIAN CONFERENCE

- I. Of 25 countries invited by the five Colombo Powers, all but one (Central African Federation) have accepted bid to meet in Bandung on 18 Apr.
 - A. Total 29 conferees represent over half world's population (1.4 billion). No special qualifications for invitation--even Nehru stated that invitees were "an odd assortment." Sidelight on polyglot group--English will be "official language."
 - B. 15 of 29 share history as former colonies or protectorates of Western nations; almost all rest know "imperialism" from receiver's end.
- II. ^{One} Provisional agenda (~~apparently~~ drafted by India) carries 8 topics.

- ~~SECRET~~
- A. Number one: "Promotion of world peace and cooperation: problems of lessening of international tensions: co-existence."
 - B. Next: "Progress in Indochina."
 - C. Third: "Racial discrimination and racial problems."
 - D. Next: "Problem of dependent people, in colonial areas and trust territories."
 - E. Fifth: "Nuclear energy, in war and peace."
 - F. Sixth: "Programmes of economic development; ways and means of cooperation within the Asian-African region."
 - G. Seventh: "Cultural cooperation."
 - H. Last: "Desirability of holding cultural festivals in participating countries on appropriate occasions."

INDIAN WOULD BE
III. Provisional agenda ~~is~~ gravity-train for Communists.

- COULD
- A. They ~~can~~ posture on side of angels, express pious views, avoid aggressive

B. Tip-off to tone of conference may be

given in Indonesian president Sukarno's opening address.

IV. ChiComs, Viet Minh working hard for big splash at Bandung.

A. Although delegations limited to 20, Peiping sending 24, plus reported 30 "security" guards.

B. Viet Minh sending only 15, but Chief Delegate will be wisp-bearded, "saintly" Ho Chi Minh, to many a living image of triumphant nationalism.

C. Head ChiCom--Premier Chou En-lai.

1. Both Chou and Ho not only extremely adroit negotiators, but possess unusual ability to charm others.

D. Measure of Commie expectations seen in press coverage plans: 12 TASS men, 2 from London Daily Worker, ¹⁵~~20-30~~ Chinese.

1. Chinese reportedly planning file 10,000 words a day.

~~SECRET~~

V. Communists will have chance to try their

Bandung "line" at dress rehearsal--the unofficial left-wing "Asian Conference to Relax International Tensions" at New Delhi (6-10 Apr.).

A. Delhi meet, sponsored by Commie-front All India Peace Council and including USSR, will be attended by private groups from 11 Asian, Middle Eastern countries which also attending Bandung.

1. Agenda remarkably similar to

Bandung's.

2 NEHRU REPORTED COOL TO THIS MEETING

B. (See separate card on U Nu's "house-party").

VI. Neutralist bloc (total: six) will have Nehru as spokesman, dominating figure. Other important neutralists:

A. U Nu (Burma) - Devout Buddhist, premier since independence ('48). Shoots local Commies, but is staunch advocate of neutrality in foreign relations; feels

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~
B. Ali Sastraamidjojo (Indonesia) - heads

neutralist cabinet which depends on
Indonesian Commies to stay in office.

C. Khalid Al-Azm (Syria) - shrewd, ambitious
opportunist, dominant figure in present
neutralist Syrian cabinet; plays anti-
Western line.

D. Delegations from remaining two neutral-
ists - Afghanistan, Nepal - are ~~insig-~~
~~nificant~~: will follow Nehru's lead.

VII..Line-up of other conferees makes outlook for
West not at all bad.

A. 21 of 29 participants are strongly anti-
Communist; of these, 12 are closely
linked to West.

B. Among them are such experienced and
eloquent advocates of co-operation with
West as:

1. Romulo (Philippines).
2. Zorlu (Turkey).
3. Wan (Thailand).

~~SECRET~~

4. Jamali (Iraq).

5. Mohammed Ali (Pakistan).

6. Kotelawala (Ceylon).

7. Amini (Iran) - able Finance Minister:
did outstanding job on oil negotia-
tions.

C. Malik (Lebanon) also may attend, although
not heading delegation.

D. Japanese delegation head not yet chosen.
Although likely to be "shy" at postwar
debut (anxious not to offend Peiping
and also keeping eyes peeled for trade
prospects), Japanese nonetheless ex-
pected to vote right.

VIII. Further factor favorable to West is possible
development Sino-Indian rivalry.

A. Nehru not believed favorably disposed to
domination of conference or show-stealing
by ChiComs/

B. Chinese will probably behave "correctly,"
press claim to Formosa.

1. Will find Conference useful place to
plant advance justification for
future Formosa
action

~~SECRET~~